

In re Patent Application of
COFLER ET AL.
Serial No. 10/082,816
Filed: FEBRUARY 25, 2002

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner and Supervisory Examiner Alford for the careful and thorough examination of the present application, and for extending all courtesies during a telephonic interview of October 17, 2007.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner contended that independent Claim 56, which recites the subject matter of former independent Claim 38 and dependent Claim 50, presents new issues for search and consideration. From this, the Examiner refused to enter then new Claim 56 into the record.

In the final Official Action, the Examiner indicated that this same subject matter was allowable if rewritten in independent form. In the Amendment After Final filed September 4, 2007, Applicants accepted the Examiner's helpful invitation and added new independent Claim 56, which is former dependent Claim 50 rewritten in independent form. During the telephonic interview, Supervisory Examiner Alford correctly noted that the subject matter of former dependent Claim 50 was indicated as patentable and did not present new issues for search and consideration.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter all claim amendments and allow all claims. In view of the claims presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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